

NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

CYCLOPEDIA OF COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS ANECDOTES. D. Appleton & Co., 443 Broadway.

Under this somewhat incongruous title the Messrs. Appleton announce a new work, to be published by subscription. The book is a collection, original and selected, of the choicest, most striking, and *recherché* anecdotes of merchants, bankers, mercantile celebrities, millionaires, &c., and comprises interesting reminiscences and facts, with notable sayings and witticisms. It is in no sense intended as a work of biography, or collated facts, only so far as either of these are anecdotically illustrative of business character or dealing, in the various aspects of the ingenious, the mirthful, and the wonder-exciting. It is the first work of the kind which has ever appeared in this or any other country, devoted to the humorous phase of trade and traders. The anecdotes in this Cyclopaedia pertain to the celebrities of traffic in all ages and nations, such as Astor, Rothschild, Girard, Baring, Lorrillard, Peabody, Lawrence, Hope, Touro, &c. Every library of note in the largest cities of the country has been explored for the materials of the work, and the best private sources within the circle of men of letters have also been resorted to. It has occupied the time of the author for fifteen years. In every case, an anecdote which could not stand a fair test of authenticity, has been rejected.

The work will be illustrated with forty steel portraits of noted merchants of Europe, Asia, and America, as well as wood-cuts of amusing incidents in their lives, and views of many business localities.

The work will be published in two large volumes, octavo, over 400 pages each. Price \$6.

ELOCUTION, CALISTHENICS, AND GYMNASTICS. By J. Madison Watson. Published by Schemerhorn, Bancroft & Co., New York and Philadelphia.

If people can become healthy by good instruction, then this handsomely bound and printed book will accomplish a most important mission. Too little attention is paid to physical cultivation in this country, and our people are becoming diseased, shorn of vitality, benumbed intellectually in consequence; this is strongly asserted by eminent physiologists and medical men, and the experience of every careful observer warrants the assertion. In the work here noticed the author has collected a great deal of excellent instruction upon the subject of physical cultivation, relating not merely to the improvement of the body itself, but to the organs and members composing it. Under the head of "Vocal Gymnastics" there are treatises upon respiration, articulation, analysis of English words, and a great deal of other matter relating to intellectual improvement. The author has discovered that mere climbings, standing on the head, &c., are not the only means for bringing life and health to exhausted or imperfectly developed frames; and he therefore combines mental discipline, or rather exercises the organ of speech in the same way that he does the other parts of the body. The work is profusely illustrated with admirable engravings, and the positions of the pupil or pupils in the several exercises are clearly portrayed; the dumb-bell and its uses, as also the club and rings, together with motions and positions independent of their use, are treated at length. For schools and educational institutions this work will, no doubt, become a standard one, and the individual reader will obtain a great deal of information from its pages.

ASTRONOMICAL AND METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

We have received from the United States Naval Observatory, Washington, under the superintendence of Capt. J. M. Gilliss, U. S. N., a very large volume, of 700 pages, filled with tables of astronomical and meteorological observations made during the year 1862. We are surprised that in so extensive a meteorological observatory no better means are had for observing the direction and force of the wind. The direction is judged by looking at the weather-vane which cannot be seen in dark nights, and the force is simply guessed at. If the vane was mounted on a light rod which extended downward into a warm room, and bore upon its lower end an index traversing a graduated circle, the direction of the wind might be known to a single degree at any hour of the day or night. And, certainly, some of the instruments for measuring the force of the wind are more to be trusted than simple guesses.

SQUADRON TACTICS UNDER STEAM. Published by D. Van Nostrand, 192 Broadway, New York.

In this useful work to navy officers, the author, Commander F. A. Parker, demonstrates—by the aid of profuse diagrams and explanatory text—a new principle for manœuvring naval vessels in action. The author contends that the winds, waves, and currents of the ocean oppose no more serious obstacles to the movements of a steam fleet than do the inequalities on the surface of the earth to the manœuvres of an army. It is in this light, therefore, that he views a vast fleet—simply as an army; the regiments, brigades, and divisions of which are represented by a certain ship or ships. The work of Sir Howard Douglas, "Naval Warfare," and the *Tactique Navale* of the French, are the only authorities on steam tactics which are worthy to be consulted; the English work is useful, but establishes no fixed system of manœuvring, while the French work is considered by officers of our service as being by far too intricate. The author says it has been his aim to combine simplicity of formation with celerity of execution; and he modestly leaves the verdict upon his labors with his readers; that it will be favorable to him we have no doubt. The volume is handsomely bound with blue and gold embossing, printed on fine paper, and profusely illustrated with 77 engravings.

THE NEW YORK STATE BUSINESS DIRECTORY FOR 1864.

Adams, Sampson & Co., No. 91 Washington street, Boston, Mass.

This volume contains a large amount of information of the greatest importance to business-men, as it gives the names and addresses of the principal firms in all branches of business throughout the State of New York; also the population of the State, towns and post-offices, manufacturing companies, insurance companies, banks, steamship lines, newspapers, magazines with the terms of subscription to same, colleges and academies; also a large and well compiled list of merchants, manufacturers and business-men generally, outside of this State. A book containing all these important matters is always convenient as a work of reference, and we do not see how it can be dispensed with.

The Newport Fisheries.

The *Newport News* says:—"Few people, either within or without the State, have a correct idea of the extent and value of the fisheries carried on by the citizens of Newport and the neighboring towns. We are informed by parties interested that last year not less than 200,000 barrels of Menhaden were caught in the waters surrounding our island, together with great quantities of fish of other kinds. These Menhaden are chiefly used in the manufacture of oil, of which about three hundred thousand gallons were produced by the different factories in operation. This oil, worth in the market ninety cents a gallon, yields no little revenue to those engaged in the business, and, as will be readily seen, adds much to the material resources of the State.

"There are in Rhode Island thirteen oil factories, employing about 250 hands. Another is in process of construction near the coal mines in Portsmouth, which will cost about \$40,000. It is expected that it will be ready to use during the coming season. There is, in fact, every indication that this branch of business will be greatly enlarged. Five new companies of fishermen have just been organized with about forty men and an aggregate investment of \$20,000. This, of course, makes business for our boat-builders and seine manufacturers, who at present have more than they can do. An establishment in Tiverton has a contract for two thousand dollars' worth of these boats, and persons in Bristol have another for over two thousand dollars, while parties here have engagements for more than four thousand dollars. Other builders doubtless have similar contracts, though we are not able to state the amounts.

"In Portsmouth, Capt. Benjamin Tallman, the oldest and most successful seine fisherman in Rhode Island, is adding about six thousand dollars to his already large establishment, and is otherwise preparing for a vigorous campaign. He employs about forty men, and is honored as the inventor of what is known as trap-fishing. In the estimation of those who know him he is the real live *king fisher* of the island, like Saul of ancient time, standing head and shoulders above his brethren.

"In addition to the income from the oil extracted from these fish, the guano manufactured from the refuse brings in quite a little sum. One hundred barrels of Menhaden produce two and a half tons of this article, which is a great fertilizer, and sells readily in bulk at \$15 a ton. From the income thus secured those engaged in the Rhode Island fisheries seem to be doing a most profitable business, and it is said that some of the gangs cleared last year over one hundred dollars a month. Of course, the profits of the capitalists were large, as is evident from the prospective increase of the capital and labor devoted to the work."

MISCELLANEOUS SUMMARY.

HOW TO MEASURE COAL.—Coal put into bins and leveled can be measured, from one to a thousand tons, with as much accuracy as it can be weighed on scales. For instance, Lehigh white-ash coal per ton of 2,000 pounds, of the egg or stove size, will uniformly measure 34½ feet cubical, white-ash Schuylkill coal will measure 35, and the pink gray and red-ash will reach 36 cubical feet per ton of 2,000 lbs. or 40 feet for 2,240 pounds, the difference of cubical contents between the net and gross ton being exactly 4 feet. If the length, breadth and height of the bin be multiplied together, and the product divided by the aforesaid contents of a ton, the quotient must show the number of tons therein.—*Troy (N. Y.) Advertiser*.

ELEVATION OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—"I have no sympathy whatever with those who would grudge our workmen and our common people, the very highest acquisition which their taste, or their time, or their inclinations, would lead them to realize; for, next to the salvation of their souls, I certainly say that the object of my fondest aspirations is the moral and intellectual, and, as a sure consequence of this the economical, advancement of the working classes—the one object which, of all others in the wide range of political speculation, is the one which should be the dearest to the heart of every philanthropist and every true patriot."—*Chalmers*.

RAT-SKIN GLOVES.—An exchange says:—"It is rumored that a company of Frenchmen has been formed in Chicago, for the purpose of catching all the rats possible, curing their skins and exporting them to Paris, to be used in the manufacture of gloves. For years what is called 'French kid' gloves have been made from the skins of these animals, caught in Paris and other parts of Europe; but the demand being greater than the supply, it has become necessary to extend the rat-catching arrangements to America, and no finer field than Chicago for such operations can possibly present itself."

THE LONDON GROCER says:—"The proprietor of the Hull Sugar Refinery commenced working Miller's patent process last week. This is the first attempt to manufacture refined sugar under this patent. Its principle is the evaporation of solution of sugar in a pan heated by steam, at 212° Fahr.; but the evaporating liquid is kept much below this temperature by freely exposing a large surface of it to the air, and this is accomplished by having a revolving cylinder partly in the air kept in constant motion, so that fresh portions of the liquid are continually carried through the air upon the surface of the cylinder."

METALLIC FLAGS FOR SOLDIERS' GRAVES, BATTLE-FIELDS, &c.—A patriotic correspondent suggests that a beautiful tin, copper, steel or iron flag, of suitable size, ought to be placed upon each of the headstones or monuments of all officers and privates who have been killed, or who have died in the service during the rebellion; these flags being purchased by the friends of the deceased, by societies, cities, towns, counties, States, or the national Government. He also suggests that a very large iron flag should be upreared on every important battle-field or national cemetery.

TREATMENT OF HICKUP.—This may often be removed by holding the breath, by swallowing a piece of bread, by sudden fright, or by a draught of weak liquid. When it arises from heat and acidity in the stomachs of children, a little rhubarb and chalk will remove it. Should it proceed from irritability of the nerves, take a few drops of sal volatile, with a teaspoonful of paregoric elixir. If it still continue, rub on soap liniment, mixed with tincture of opium, or a